(b) if so, whether the proposal of modernisation is pending for lack of funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR) : (a) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) has taken decision for the redevelopment of Mumbai High Field as a long term measure for optimization of oil recovery.

(b) No, Sir.

Guidelines on Appointment of Dealers for Petroleum Products

†3949. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have issued any guidelines/rules for appointment of dealers and distributors for LPG/diesel/petrol and kerosene by various companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether each and every petroleum and natural gas company follow above guidelines/rules;

(d) whether opinion of local M.P. is sought before appointment of dealers in any Parliamentary Constituency; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor and the reasons for overlooking MPs recommendation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) With a view to streamlining the procedure for selection of dealers/ distributors of petroleum products by the DSBs, new guidelines were formulated and issued to the Oil Companies on 9.10.2000. The guidelines prescribe a uniform, transparent procedure for selection of dealers/distributors.

The locations for setting up dealerships/ distributorships, included in the Marketing Plans, are advertised by the Oil Companies inviting applications from eligible candidates. After the scruitiny of the applications, the eligible candidates are interviewed by the DSBs for selection on merit. The following criteria have been prescribed for assessing the *inter-se* merit of the candidates :-

(i) Personality, business ability and salesmanship.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(ii) Capability to arrange finances.

(iii) Educational qualification and general level of intelligence.

(iv) Capability to provide infrastructure and facilities (land, godown, showroom, etc.)

(v) General assessment.

As per the guidelines, reservation of dealerships/distributorships for different sections of the society will be as under :—

(1)	Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes (SC/STs)	25%
(2)	Physically Handicapped Persons (PH)	5%
(3)	Paramilitary/Police/Government Personnel (PMP)	8%
(4)	Defence Personnel (DC)	8%
(5)	Freedom Fighters (FF)	2%
(6)	Outstanding Sportspersons (OSP)	2%
(7)	Open (O)	50%

33% of the dealerships/distributorships in each of the above categories will be reserved for women in that category.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Action against dealers under MDG

3950. SHRI ABANI ROY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons and justifications for providing 18 offences of RPO dealers in MDG as compared to only 7 offences in MS/HSD control order;

(b) whether Government have ordered the oil corporation to pass orders in case of any punitive action against any erring dealers under MDG or above control order; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?